Subsidy on seeds of foodgrains

1411. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government prpose to do away with the subsidies on seeds of foodgrains meant for farmers ; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Operation Flood-III Project

1412. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 3335 given in the Rajya Sabha on 20th December, 1991 and what is the response of the European Economic Community to Government's request for the supply of gift dairy commodities for Operation Flood-III Project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K.C. LENKA) : No official intimation has been received from the European Economic Community (EEC) for supply of gift dairy commodities for Opertion Flood-III project?

World Bank assistance for farm sector

1413. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether World Bank is financing farm sector in the country ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) The World Bank is currently nancing thirteen projects which are implefimented through Department of Agriculture & Cooperation, Department of Agricultural Research & Education and Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying. Project-wise details are given in the enclosed statement. (*See* appendix CLXII Annexure No. 39). These projects run for a period of 3-7 years. Out of the total assistance of US £ 1685 million under these projects, the cumulative disbursements upto January, 1992 is £ 581 million.

(c) Various steps are being taken by the Government to implement these projects as per schedule and utilise the full assistance from the World Bank.

Cooperatives in the country

1414. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government prpose to take steps so as to enable the cooperatives in the country to function independently and free from Government interference ; and

(b) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Various measures have been initiated to make the cooperatives function independently and free from Government control These measures are :—

—advising the State Governments to reform the State Cooperative Societies Act to the make the coopervties vibrant democratic organisation;

—operatinalising the recommendations of the Agricultural Credit Review Committee by way of preparation and im lementation of business development plans for primary cooperatives to make them economically viable ; and

—preparing guidelines for providing guarantee for the deposits to be mobilised by the Primary Agricultural Credit Societics.